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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/591,097	06/08/2000	Christian Odemann	RW-106	2124

7590 12/17/2003
FRIEDRICH KUEFFNER
317 MADISON AVENUE SUITE 910
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER

LE, MIRANDA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2177

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/591,097

Applicant(s)

ODEMANN, CHRISTIAN

Examiner

Miranda Le

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09/22/03 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment B, filed 09/22/2003.
2. Claims 7-10 are pending in this application. Claim 7 is independent claim. In the Amendment B, claims 7-10 were added. This action is made Final.
3. The rejection of claim 1 by 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph has been withdrawn in view of the amendment.
4. The objection to the specification (drawings) of the invention has been withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Drawings

5. The drawing was received on 09/22/2003. This drawing is approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

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7. Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aragonés et al. (US Patent No. 6,067,486), in view of Caswell et al. (US Patent No. 4,636,950).

As per claim 7, Aragonés teaches “A method for management of aeronautical industry implements which have to be sent to special workshops for checking, maintenance, calibration, certification and repair, comprising the steps of: providing the implements with an individual, machine readable identification characteristic” at col. 3, lines 3-24;

“storing the implement status data and the identification characteristic in a central data bank” at col. 3, line 26 to col. 4, line 12;

“permitting a remote access to the data bank while excluding paper or electronic accompanying documents containing information concerning the implements by sending of the implements” at col. 3, lines 26-37;

Aragonés does not specifically teach “making the individual identification characteristic available by a radio frequency transponder, the identification characteristic of an implement serving as proof of authorization for permitting the access to data stored in the data bank”. However, Caswell teaches this limitation at col. 3, line 54 to col. 4, line 4.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Aragonés with the teachings of Caswell to include “making the individual identification characteristic available by a radio frequency transponder, the identification characteristic of an implement serving as proof of authorization for permitting the access to data stored in the data bank” in order to provide an inventory management system establishes remote, non contact counting techniques whereby large numbers of units in inventory can be tracked and tabulated quickly.

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As per claim 8, Aragoness teaches “the status data include at least one of present location, place of use, certification status, calibration status, age and future checking dates” at col. 5, line 1 to col. 6, line 5.

As per claim 9, Aragoness teaches “optimizing logistic guidance of an allotment of the implements by means of the data of the data bank” at col. 3, line 3 to col. 4, line 53.

As per claim 10, Caswell teaches “use of a radio frequency transponder” at col. 3, line 54 to col. 4, line 4.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments regarding “the Sandifier does not store or provide information that is specific to an individual implement or piece of equipment” with respect to claims 7-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-3203. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene, can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Miranda Le

December 5, 2003

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

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Miranda Le

December 5, 2003



GRETA ROBINSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER